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with Professor Skeat's edition, who also prints from the Corpus MS and inserts the variants from A and B at foot of the first column.

In Matthew, chapter iv, verse 15 is omitted without remark. Professor Skeat states that "Ver. 15 is omitted in all the copies", even in the later MSS Hatton and Royal, so the omission of the translator or scribe was never supplied. The verse, however, occurs in the Lindisfarne and Rushworth MSS, an incidental proof of the independence of these translators.

As Thorpe's edition of the Anglo-Saxon Gospels, even in the Klipstein reprint, has been long out of print, and Skeat's edition is too expensive for school and college use, besides not being convenient for that purpose, Professor Bright's edition comes in most suitably, and will, doubtless, be extensively used. A complete Glossary to the four volumes is a desideratum, and will eventually be prepared along with requisite notes to the Gospels of St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke.

Beowulf, An Old English Epic (The Earliest Epic of the Germanic Race). Translated into Modern English Prose by WENTWORTH HUYSHE, with Notes and Illustrations. London, George Routledge & Sons, Ltd.; New York, E. P. Dutton & Co., liii, 216 [1907].

The interest in the translation of Beowulf still continues. During the past few years there have been other translations into German besides those of Grein and Heyne, well-known to scholars, and since that of Clark Hall (1901), noticed by the writer in his paper on "Recent Translations of Old English Poetry" (Publications of the Mod. Lang. Assoc., XVIII 3, 1903), we have had those of Tinker (1902),—also noticed in the above-mentioned paper,—of Child (1904), and now a new and elaborate one, without date, but issued in 1907, by Mr. Wentworth Huyshe. I must condemn in passing the practice of some publishers of omitting from the title-page the date of publication, an unfortunate recent practice, which would be "more honoured in the breach than the observance". If there is one thing that a reader wants especially to know, it is *when* a book was published. Mr. Huyshe's translation contains a full Introduction of over fifty pages, giving an account of the manuscript, argument, origin and date of the poem, its literary quality, scenes and surroundings, and social life,—in which both Mr. Clark Hall and Professor Harrison are drawn upon.

The translation is divided into four parts: the fight with the demon Grendel, the fight with Grendel's mother, Beowulf's return to Gothland, and Beowulf and the Dragon, with sub-headings under each, and, as an appendix, the Fight at Finn's Burgh. Each section is followed by notes elucidating the poem;

the episodes are printed in smaller type, as in Mr. Clark Hall's translation, upon which the present translator seems to be somewhat dependent. There are also in many expressions coincidences between this translation and one of twenty-five years ago published by the present writer, showing that it has, at least, been read by the translator, but the result will be to make "Beowulf" better known, which is the main point. One point in which Mr. Huyshe has imitated Mr. Clark Hall, and even surpassed him, is in the numerous illustrations which add value to the translation, as the vessel, the hall, the armor, and the horse-trappings are abundantly illustrated, but it is not always stated from what work the illustrations are taken. A map, similar to the one in Mr. Clark Hall's translation, though not so neatly drawn, is prefixed to p. 11, but we miss the genealogies and the index of proper names, both of which should have been added. Facsimiles of the same pages of the manuscript as in Mr. Clark Hall's translation are given, but in both occur the same misprint, 2177 for 2127. These pages are reduced from Professor Zupitza's edition of the manuscript for the Early English Text Society, published in 1882. A few other misprints in the Introduction may be noted for future correction: p. xxxiii, line 3, 579; line 14 from bottom, Pendas'; p. xxxiv, lines 2 and 24, Scôp; p. xxxviii, line 8 from bottom, Chanci; p. xlv, line 3 from bottom, edintification; p. xlviii, line 19, *Volsunga*. And there are some others in the book, but misprints are hard to avoid. Mr. Huyshe tells us (Notes, p. 43) that "The lines are those according to the text of Mr. A. J. Wyatt", so presumably the translation is made from that text, which seems to be increasing in favor. No one of the younger scholars has yet adopted my suggestion of a few years ago that some one of them should give us a variorum edition of the text, which would supply a more secure basis for translation. A marginal numbering of the lines, as adopted by Mr. Clark Hall, would make the translation much more convenient for reference. While I should not follow Mr. Huyshe in all of his renderings, I may say that I think the translation quite well done, and that it will prove helpful to the student. It is strange, however, that in two passages of the Notes, pp. 188 and 190, he should call Ecgtheow Beowulf's *mother*. This is contrary to the views of all other commentators and translators, as far as I know, and is entirely original. It cannot be charged to a *misprint*, and is evidently a *lapsus memoriae*; however, it can be easily corrected, a good translation thereby bettered, and the knowledge of "Beowulf" thereby extended. The translation of the Fight at Finn's Burgh, also made from Mr. Wyatt's text, has some readings which need correction: p. 203, line 4, *byrnad* should be *byrnad*; line 12 from bottom, for "he" read "they"; p. 204, line 1, the lacuna might have been translated according to Wyatt's text, but Mr. Huyshe says that he has "not attempted a reading or a translation". Hickes's text is corrupt, but Grein has, perhaps, made the best

restorations of this obscure text. In the section on "editions and translations", after the name of Professor J. Leslie Hall, *dele* "late", as he is still with us; add the name of Mr. C. G. Child, (prose), 1904; and p. 216, correct the misprint in Ettmüller's name, and prefix "N." to that of Grundtvig.

Tragedy. By ASHLEY H. THORNDIKE, Professor of English in Columbia University. Boston and New York, Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1908.

This is the most recent volume in "The Types of English Literature" series, and, in the words of the author, "This book attempts to trace the course of English tragedy from its beginnings to the middle of the nineteenth century, and to indicate the part which it has played in the history both of the theatre and of literature." This is a commendable and a desirable object, but it is a question whether it is possible to accomplish it in less than four hundred 12mo pages. Fortunately the Elizabethan Drama (1558-1642), with an Introduction on the earlier period, has just been treated by Professor Schelling in two 8vo volumes of over 600 pages each, and Professor Thorndike would do well to continue that work on the same scale "to the middle of the nineteenth century". Besides the necessarily scanty treatment that must be given to so comprehensive a subject in such limited space, it is also a question whether the method adopted in "The Types of English Literature" series is the best. The result is apt to be a volume, or volumes, of condensed annals, with brief critical comments, which may suit well enough those who know the subject already, and therefore do not need this kind of information, but such a treatment will scarcely give the requisite information to those who are ignorant of the subject.

A brief summary of the plot of a tragedy will hardly answer as a basis for an appreciation of the critical comments, or enable the student to dispense with the reading of the play itself.

The trouble with all such compendiums is that they assume knowledge which the reader does not possess, and therefore he cannot enter into the spirit of the writer, and judge of the latter's criticism, however just it may be. Barring the objection taken to the method, and the resulting treatment of the subject, both being defects consequent upon the plan of these works, Professor Thorndike has done as well as could be expected under the circumstances.

If he has mastered a tithe of the works enumerated in the bibliographical notes attached to the chapters, he has equipped himself well for the treatment of his subject, and has provided the material from which his readers may select what suits their respective objects.